

CALIFORNIA STATE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

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603 Phelan Building, 760 Market Street
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State Office Building, 10th and L Streets
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LOS ANGELES

State Office Building, 217 West First
Street MADison 1271

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GUY P. JONES
EDITOR

Crippled Children Services In California

By C. M. MILLS, M.D., Chief

Organization and Methods of Providing Care

The State Department of Public Health is the official State Agency for providing medical and surgical care for physically handicapped children in California. The Crippled Children Services in the Department of Public Health administers the program which is based on federal, state and county participation and financial support. The aim of the Crippled Children Services is to provide the highest quality of medical care for physically handicapped children in order that their handicaps may be corrected in so far as possible, enabling them to become productive members of their communities.

Federal participation is based on Title 5, Part 2 of the Social Security Act which is administered by the Children's Bureau of the Department of Labor. The Social Security Act provides an appropriation of \$3,870,000 each year "for the purpose of enabling each state to extend and improve (especially in rural areas * * *) * * * services for locating crippled children and for providing medical, surgical, corrective and other services and care, and facilities for diagnosis, hospitalization, and after care, for children who are crippled * * *." The state's allotment of this money is obtained after the state plan and budget is approved by the Children's Bureau. A state plan must provide for: (1) financial participation by a state, (2) the administration of the plan by a state agency, (3) such methods of

administration as are necessary for the proper and efficient operation of the plan, (4) reports as required by the Secretary of Labor, (5) carrying out the purposes of the act, (6) cooperation with medical, health, nursing, and welfare groups and organizations. These broad requirements include many necessary rules and recommendations made by the Children's Bureau to which the state plan must conform. Federal funds are granted to states on a matching basis, and outright grants also are made where great need is shown. Both state and county funds are used to match federal funds in the California program.

State and county participation is based on the Crippled Children's Act (Health and Safety Code 1939) which provides that the State Board of Health shall find "needy physically defective or handicapped persons under the age of eighteen years" by local surveys and diagnostic clinics; shall contract with persons, hospitals, institutions and agencies which it deems properly qualified to provide necessary medical, surgical, hospital and other services for the physical rehabilitation of such persons; and shall, through its employees, maintain strict supervision over persons accepted for care. The act provides that the parents or guardian of any crippled child may petition the Superior Court in the county of their residence for a certificate setting forth the fact that they (parents) are wholly or partly unable

to furnish the necessary care for the child's physical rehabilitation. When this certificate of the Superior Court is received by the Crippled Children Services, the child is assigned to a properly qualified physician or surgeon for the necessary care. The physician's fees, hospital bills, costs of appliances, etc., are billed directly to the State Department of Public Health and paid from the \$50,000 Physical Defectives Revolving Fund set up by the act. The county in which the certificate was issued is then billed and repays the state revolving fund. The act also provides that each county board of supervisors may furnish necessary care for physically handicapped children and may do this through the procedure of certification outlined above or may provide these services independently. The usual method of providing independent services is through the local county hospital.

Based on the federal and state laws outlined above and on our state plan, there are three methods of placing a child under care in the forty-three counties included in our plan.

- (1) *Certification through the Crippled Children's Act.* This method is used exclusively in twenty-nine counties and in combination with (2) below in six counties. Any child is eligible who is a resident of the county (residence not defined in the act) under eighteen years of age whose parents are wholly or partly unable to provide the necessary care. Part-pay plans may be made.
- (2) *Independent Services in a county.* This method is used exclusively in eight counties, care being provided in county hospitals approved by the Crippled Children Services. Reports of cases and expenditures are sent to the State Department of Public Health for approval under the state plan. Persons are eligible who are county residents under age of twenty-one and whose parents are unable to provide the necessary care.
- (3) *Directly from Social Security Funds.* This method is used (a) for persons between eighteen and twenty-one years of age in counties using certification exclusively, (b) for persons unable to establish residence in any county, (c) in areas where special need is shown and local facilities or funds are inadequate. In any case parents must be wholly or partly unable to provide the needed care. Part-pay plans may be arranged. Federal funds are spent in this manner in the various counties on the basis of county need and expenditures.

Services provided through methods (1) and (3) are considered "direct services" because the responsibility of approving, financing, assigning and handling other details of the cases is assumed directly by the Crippled Children Services. Since direct responsibility for many details involved in method (2) is not assumed by the Crippled Children Services, these are considered "independent services." However, they are under our supervision as the official state agency.

To assist in administering the Crippled Children's Program, special agents have been appointed in the various counties. In the forty-three counties included in our state plan, there are twenty-one health officers, seven welfare directors, four superior court judges and five other county officials serving as special agents. In six counties the office of special agent is vacant at present. In eight other counties, special agents have been appointed, but county funds have not been set aside for the care of crippled children. Therefore, these counties are not included in our state plan and budget. The special agent recommends and approves cases for care; prepares or supervises the preparation of necessary reports and records; handles local financial and budgetary matters; and manages other details of the local program. Children needing care may be referred to the special agent, to local health or welfare personnel, or directly to the Crippled Children Services.

Definition of a Crippled Child

Although the definition of a crippled child in the Crippled Children's Act is very broad ("physically defective or handicapped") our working definition is confined to children having normal or near normal mentality, whose physical handicap falls within the following main groups.

- (1) *Conditions requiring orthopedic care.* This group is made up of diseases and deformities of the bones, joints, muscles, ligaments and tendons. The most common deformities in this group are those caused by infantile paralysis, congenital defects, accidents, and infections such as tuberculosis or osteomyelitis.
- (2) *Conditions requiring plastic surgery.* In this group are congenital defects such as cleft palate and lip, web fingers and toes, and accidental defects such as disfiguring scars.
- (3) *Eye conditions requiring or likely to require surgery.* The most frequent conditions in this group are cross eyes and congenital cataracts.
- (4) *Malformations of the jaws or teeth requiring orthodonture.* Cases of severe malocclusion may be

accepted under the State Crippled Children's Act, but malocclusion must be combined with some other deformity of the mouth or jaws such as cleft palate, before such a case may be cared for from federal funds.

Clinic Services

The provision of diagnostic and supervisory clinic service is one of the most important activities of the Crippled Children Services. The clinics are important as a means of case finding; of providing excellent diagnostic service to rural areas; of providing consultation service to private physicians; of obtaining recommendations for care; of providing supervision and follow-up for cases already under care; of presenting the problems of physically handicapped children to local health and welfare personnel; and of arousing and holding the interest of the public in the welfare of crippled children.

GARBAGE DISPOSAL

Garbage dumps and methods of garbage disposal were investigated in Sunnyvale, San Jose, San Rafael, Petaluma, Antioch, Pittsburg, Camarillo, Oxnard, Barstow, Daggett, Victorville, Natomas, Sacramento and Stockton. At the request of the Health Officer of Contra Costa County, assistance was given in the investigation of conditions on various garbage dumps. Similar assistance was given in Monterey, Sacramento, Marin and San Bernardino counties.

REVISED LIST OF REPORTABLE DISEASES

The California State Board of Public Health has recently revised, by regulation, the list of diseases that are reportable in California. The following diseases have been removed from the list of diseases that are reportable only: beriberi, chancre, fluke infection, hookworm, and pellagra.

The term "lymphogranuloma inguinale" has been changed to "granuloma inguinale" and the disease is made reportable and subject to isolation. Epidemic dysentery of the newborn (in institutions) has been made reportable and subject to isolation. Lymphopathia venereum has also been added to the list of diseases that are reportable and subject to isolation. Erysipelas has been removed from the list of reportable diseases.

Following is a list of diseases reportable in California classified according to control methods, reportable only, subject to isolation, and subject to quarantine and placarding:

LIST OF DISEASES REPORTABLE IN CALIFORNIA Reportable Only:

Anthrax

Botulism—if commercial product notify State Department of Health at once.

Coccidioidal Granuloma

Dengue—keep patient in mosquito free room.

Epilepsy

Food Poisoning

Glanders—report by phone or telegraph.

Jaundice—infectious or epidemic types.

Malaria—keep patient in mosquito free room.

Pneumonia—specify type of pneumococcus, if known.

Relapsing fever

Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever

Tetanus

Trichinosis

Tularemia

Undulant fever

Reportable and Subject to Isolation:

Epidemic diarrhea of the newborn (in institutions)

Chickenpox

Dysentery—Amoebic

Dysentery—Bacillary—specify type, if known.

German Measles

Influenza

Measles

Mumps

Ophthalmia Neonatorum

Psittacosis

Rabies—in animals. Use special card.

Rabies—in humans.

Septic Sore Throat (in epidemic form).

Trachoma

Tuberculosis—use special card.

Whooping Cough

Syphilis—use special card.

Gonorrhea—use special card.

Chancroid—use special card.

Lymphopathia Venereum—use special card.

Granuloma inguinale—use special card.

Reportable and Subject to Quarantine and Placarding:

Cholera—report by telephone or telegraph to State Department of Health.

Diphtheria

Encephalitis (Infectious)—specify type, if known.

NOTE: This means all forms of acute encephalitis such as St. Louis type, equine type, and any other epidemic form occurring in California.

Leprosy

Meningitis (due to the meningococcus).

Paratyphoid Fever—specify type A or B.

Plague—report by telephone or telegraph to State Department of Health.

Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis

Scarlet Fever

Smallpox

Typhoid Fever

Typhus Fever

Yellow Fever—report by telephone or telegraph to State Department of Health.

MORBIDITY

Complete Reports for Following Diseases for Week Ending
December 21, 1940

Chickenpox

530 cases: Berkeley 5, Oakland 38, San Leandro 1, Colusa County 5, Contra Costa County 2, Crescent City 5, El Dorado County 1, Fresno County 15, Fresno 2, Humboldt County 1, Eureka 2, Imperial County 1, Kern County 15, Bakersfield 1, Kings County 9, Los Angeles County 42, Alhambra 3, Burbank 1, Compton 5, El Segundo 2, Glendale 3, Hermosa 2, Long Beach 7, Los Angeles 18, Montebello 1, Pasadena 5, Pomona 2, Redondo 1, San Fernando 2, Santa Monica 1, Whittier 3, South Gate 1, Monterey Park 1, Sausalito 1, Merced County 5, Gustine 14, Monterey County 2, Pacific Grove 2, Salinas 4, Napa 3, Orange County 1, Anaheim 2, Brea 2, Fullerton 1, Orange 9, Santa Ana 13, La Habra 2, Riverside County 6, Riverside 2, San Jacinto 1, Sacramento 25, San Bernardino County 5, San Diego County 16, La Mesa 1, San Diego 11, San Francisco 59, San Joaquin County 8, Lodi 10, Stockton 5, Tracy 14, San Luis Obispo County 1, Redwood City 1, Santa Barbara County 12, Lompoc 9, Santa Barbara 1, Santa Maria 1, Santa Clara County 15, Los Gatos 3, Palo Alto 20, Sunnyvale 2, Santa Cruz County 1, Watsonville 10, Shasta County 4, Tehama County 1, Tulare County 15, Exeter 1, Lindsay 3, Woodland 2, Marysville 1.

Diphtheria

6 cases: Fresno 1, Calipatria 1, Merced County 1, Riverside 1, Sacramento 1, San Bernardino County 1.

German Measles

20 cases: Alameda County 1, Oakland 1, Kern County 2, Huntington Park 1, Long Beach 4, Los Angeles 1, Pasadena 1, Orange County 1, Fullerton 2, Santa Ana 1, Seal Beach 1, Ontario 3, El Cajon 1.

Influenza

12,547 cases: Alameda County 53, Albany 5, Berkeley 940, Emeryville 9, Hayward 1, Oakland 88, San Leandro 1, Butte County 16, Chico 77, Gridley 14, Colusa County 7, Contra Costa County 13, Martinez 2, Crescent City 24, El Dorado County 4, Fresno County 35, Coalinga 3, Fresno 68, Selma 5, Glenn County 4, Humboldt County 46, Arcata 7, Eureka 31, Inyo County 28, Bishop 6, Kern County 409, Bakersfield 186, Kings County 4, Susanville 36, Los Angeles County 953, Alhambra 162, Arcadia 17, Burbank 26, Claremont 138, Compton 10, Culver City 4, El Monte 56, El Segundo 28, Glendale 92, Glendora 9, Hermosa 2, Huntington Park 10, Inglewood 18, La Verne 1, Long Beach 51, Los Angeles 2,964, Manhattan 2, Monrovia 1, Montebello 26, Pasadena 186, Pomona 1, Redondo 2, San Fernando 5, San Gabriel 19, San Marino 27, Santa Monica 4, South Pasadena 25, Vernon 3, Whittier 13, Torrance 35, Lynwood 3, Hawthorne 1, South Gate 7, Monterey Park 8, Maywood 9, Bell 3, Gardena 8, Marin County 3, San Anselmo 13, Sausalito 9, Mendocino County 19, Merced County 52, Gustine 169, Merced 95, Monterey County 48, Carmel 17, King City 5, Monterey 24, Pacific Grove 15, Salinas 7, Soledad 1, Napa County 1, Calistoga 17, Napa 71, Nevada County 3, Grass Valley 58, Orange County 8, Anaheim 13, Brea 7, Fullerton 8, Huntington Beach 2, Orange 8, Santa Ana 78, La Habra 7, Laguna Beach 3, Placentia 6, Colfax 30, Plumas County 47, Riverside County 48, Perris 6, Indio 73, Palm Springs 14, Sacramento 123, San Bernardino County 114, Ontario 26, Redlands 11, Chula Vista 3, San Diego 35, San Francisco 390, San Joaquin County 157, Stockton 2, San Luis Obispo County 68, Arroyo Grande 16, Paso Robles 33, San Luis Obispo 34, Santa Barbara County 33, Lompoc 12, Santa Barbara 27, Santa Maria 21, Santa Clara County 546, Palo Alto 7, San Jose 2,031, Santa Clara 4, Santa Cruz County 3, Santa Cruz 15, Watsonville 6, Siskiyou County 87, Dorris 85, Yreka 65, Solano County 33, Suisun 12, Vacaville 7, Santa Rosa 4, Stanislaus County 1, Tehama County 1, Corning 54, Red Bluff 6, Tulare County 66, Lindsay 155, Porterville 3, Ventura County 24, Oxnard 4, Santa Paula 5, Ventura 5, Yolo County 7, Woodland 11, Marysville 2.

Measles

55 cases: Oakland 1, Contra Costa County 1, Kern County 7, Bakersfield 1, Kings County 1, Los Angeles County 1, Glendale 1, Huntington Park 1, Long Beach 1, Los Angeles 2, Sacramento 1, San Diego County 2, Santa Barbara County 19, Lompoc 6, Santa Barbara 1, Santa Maria 1, Shasta County 1, Vacaville 4, Tulare County 1.

Mumps

160 cases: Oakland 9, Fresno County 1, Fresno 2, Kern County 3, Bakersfield 8, Delano 2, Kings County 1, Los Angeles County 32, El Segundo 7, Glendale 2, Long Beach 16, Los Angeles 17, Pomona 1, Redondo 1, Torrance 1, Hawthorne 1, South Gate 2, Signal Hill 2, Maywood 1, Marin County 3, Grass Valley 3, Orange County 2, Fullerton 4, Huntington Beach 6, Riverside County 1, Ontario 1, San Diego 2, San Francisco 7, Santa Cruz County 2, Solano County 10, Red Bluff 1, Tulare County 5, Dinuba 2, Davis 1.

Pneumonia (Lobar)

122 cases: Berkeley 1, Oakland 2, Fresno County 1, Coalinga 4, Fresno 3, Humboldt County 1, Los Angeles County 12, Bur-

bank 3, El Monte 1, Glendale 1, Long Beach 2, Los Angeles 36, Montebello 1, Pasadena 6, Pomona 1, Redondo 1, South Pasadena 1, Gardena 1, Gustine 2, Monterey County 1, Napa 1, Brea 1, San Bernardino County 5, La Mesa 1, San Diego 1, San Francisco 11, San Joaquin County 3, Stockton 1, San Luis Obispo County 2, Santa Barbara County 1, Lompoc 1, Santa Barbara 2, Palo Alto 2, Santa Cruz County 1, Lindsay 1, Ventura County 6, Oxnard 1.

Scarlet Fever

93 cases: Alameda County 1, Contra Costa County 1, Crescent City 1, Fresno County 3, Brawley 3, Kern County 1, Los Angeles County 20, Huntington Park 3, Long Beach 4, Los Angeles 13, Pasadena 2, San Gabriel 2, Santa Monica 1, Whittier 1, Hawthorne 1, South Gate 1, Merced 1, Napa 1, Orange County 1, Anaheim 1, Sacramento 3, San Bernardino County 4, Redlands 1, San Diego County 5, San Diego 5, San Francisco 2, San Joaquin County 5, Stockton 1, San Luis Obispo County 1, Santa Maria 1, Shasta County 1, Exeter 2.

Smallpox

One case: Palm Springs.

Typhoid Fever

5 cases: Fresno County 1, Los Angeles County 1, Glendale 1, Gilroy 1, Winters 1.

Whooping Cough

161 cases: Berkeley 5, Oakland 10, Contra Costa County 4, Concord 2, Fresno County 1, Kern County 1, Bakersfield 1, Los Angeles County 23, Arcadia 1, El Segundo 1, Glendale 4, Long Beach 7, Los Angeles 26, Pasadena 1, Pomona 2, Salinas 2, Orange County 2, Orange 1, Santa Ana 12, Laguna Beach 1, Riverside County 1, Indio 1, Sacramento 1, Chula Vista 4, San Diego 7, San Francisco 14, San Joaquin County 5, Stockton 2, San Luis Obispo County 5, San Luis Obispo 7, Santa Barbara County 2, Red Bluff 1, Ventura County 3, Fillmore 1.

Dysentery (Bacillary)

4 cases: Los Angeles County 1, Los Angeles 1, Lompoc 1, Soledad 1.

Poliomyelitis

One case: Oakland.

Tetanus

One case: Los Angeles.

Encephalitis (Epidemic)

3 cases: Fresno County 1, Porterville 1, Davis 1.

Typhus Fever

One case: Los Angeles.

Undulant Fever

4 cases: Los Angeles County 1, Pasadena 1, South Gate 1, Davis 1.

Septic Sore Throat

2 cases: Bakersfield 1, Long Beach 1.

Epilepsy

17 cases: Kingsburg 1, Los Angeles County 4, Los Angeles 8, Santa Monica 1, Bell 1, San Bernardino County 1, San Francisco 1.

Rabies (Animal)

14 cases: Oakland 1, El Centro 2, Los Angeles County 1, Los Angeles 1, Riverside County 1, Riverside 8.

Because of the testing of selectees, the work of the State Laboratory increased markedly during November. During the month there were 18,115 Kline, 3,272 Kahn tests, 3,568 Wasserman tests and 513 gonococcus smears examined. About 2.5 per cent of blood tests made for the selective service were positive.

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